MARVEL COMICS
MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS
WOLVERINE
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APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
VS.
SPIDER-MAN!
'NUFF SAID?
ERIK LARSEN AND DUSCIO
PLUS 3 MORE ALL-NEW FEATURES!

MARVEL® COMICS PRESENTS™

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DEVIL SLAYER "LOST SOULS" 9

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"FIST FIGHT" — PART 1 OF 3

Peter Parker, the Amazing Spider-Man, was hoping to spend a quiet evening at home with his wife, Mary Jane, but he runs into Wolverine, the mutant super guy with adamantium claws and a healing factor, who is believed to be long dead. You know there's gotta be a fight in there somewhere!

"DEATH CONSEQUENCES" — PART 3 OF 4

An unholy alliance is formed between the C.I.A. section leader, the commander of the local revolutionary government forces and the Flying Dutchman that promises to seal the doom of the village of Potega and cause the soul of Eric Simon Payne — Devil Slayer — to irresistibly fall into the hands of the Flying Dutchman.

"OBJECT"

Through her ex-husband's scientific genius, socialite heiress *Janet Van Dyne* received the superhuman ability to decrease her size to that of an insect, the powers of flight, increased strength, and a powerful bio-electric "sting." She now battles crime as the winsome *Wasp*. She's come back to New York to promote her new line of summer fashions ...

"WHEN IT RAINS"

She is the leader of the X-Men. He, the exiled king of Latveria. Both share a love of land that will make them allies against a common foe and renew their long-dormant friendship — if they survive.

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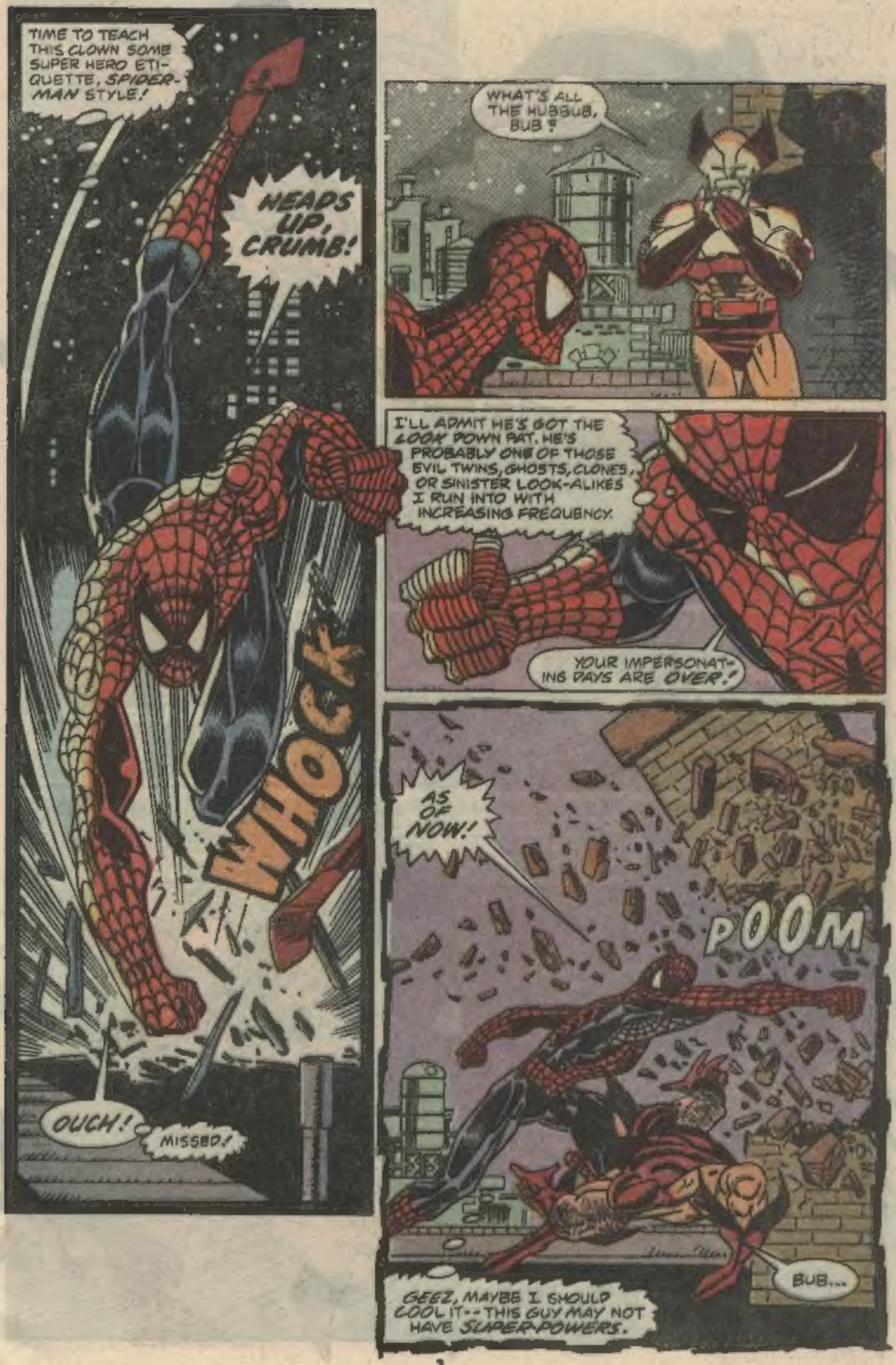
MY LIFE'S TAKEN A VERY SURREAL TURN OF LATE.
THESE PREPOSTEROUS COINCIDENCES ARE GETTING OUT OF HAND.
MY FORMER HIGH SCHOOL WORST ENEMY TURNED BEST BUDDY, FLASH THOMPSON, IS DATING MY FORMER FOE TURNED PARTNER/ FORMER LOVE INTEREST, THE BLACK CAT A.K.A. FELICIA HARDY.
IT'S ALL PART OF SOME CRAZY REVENGE SCHEME OF HERS TO GET ME AWAY FROM MY WIFE, MARY JANE.
ALSO, MY FORMER FOE TURNED SEMI-FRIEND, THOMAS FIREHEART, A.K.A. THE PUMA, RECENTLY BOUGHT THE PAPER I WORK FOR, THE DAILY BUGLE, FROM J. JONAH JAMESON, MY ONGOING CONCERN.
ADDED TO THAT MY FORMER NEIGHBOR AND JONAH'S FORMER SECRETARY, GLORY GRANT, ACCIDENTLY KILLED HER WERE-WOLF BOYFRIEND TRYING TO SHOOT ME.
THE END
PART 1
FIST FIGHT

MARY JANE USED TO DATE FLASH AND HARRY OSBORN.
FLASH AND I BOTH DATED HARRY'S WIFE, LIZ.
LIZ IS RELATED TO THE MOLTEN MAN, WHO RECENTLY RETURNED.
HARRY'S DAD WAS THE ORIGINAL GREEN GOBLIN WHO KILLED MY OLD GIRLFRIEND, GWEN STACY (WHO ALSO DATED FLASH).
FLASH SAW BETTY BRANT (ANOTHER FORMER GIRLFRIEND OF MINE AND FORMER SECRETARY OF JONAH'S), WHILE SHE WAS MARRIED TO NED LEEDS WHO TURNED OUT TO BE THE HOBGOBLIN.
I STILL HAVE TROUBLE BUYING THAT ONE.
WHAT THE...
WOLVERINE--?!
WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?
THAT CAN'T BE HIM!
HE'S DEAD.
IT WAS ON T.V. AND EVERYTHING.
SOMEBODY'S DRESSED UP LIKE HIM, AND BROTHER, THAT'S JUST NOT RIGHT!
WOLVIE GAVE UP HIS LIFE SAVING THE WORLD, DARN IT!
NO TWO-BIT PUNK'S CASHING IN ON HIS GOOD NAME WHILE I'M AROUND!


TIME TO TEACH THIS CLOWN SOME SUPER HERO ETIQUETTE, SPIDER-MAN STYLE!
HEADS UP, CRUMB!
WHOCK
OUCH!
MISSED!
WHAT'S ALL THE HUBBUB, BUB?
I'LL ADMIT HE'S GOT THE LOOK DOWN PAT. HE'S PROBABLY ONE OF THOSE EVIL TWINS, GHOSTS, CLONES, OR SINISTER LOOK-ALIKES I RUN INTO WITH INCREASING FREQUENCY.
YOUR IMPERSONATING DAYS ARE OVER!
AS OF NOW!
POOM
BUB...
GEEZ, MAYBE I SHOULD COOL IT--THIS GUY MAY NOT HAVE SUPER-POWERS.

...YOU'VE MADE A BIG MISTAKE.
WHAM
THAT HURT.
HE'S GOOD.
MAYBE AS GOOD AS WOLVERINE.
LOOKS LIKE HE'S GOT MORE GOING FOR HIM THAN JUST ACCESS TO WOLVIE'S UNDERWEAR DRAWER.
IN CASE YOU DON'T KNOW IT, BUNKY, WOLVERINE'S DEAD.
I DON'T THINK HE'D TAKE KINDLY TO SOME PINHEAD PILFERING HIS PAJAMAS."
KRAK

SNIKT
OOOF!
OUTFIT'S MINE, BUB.
ALWAYS HAS BEEN.
STILL WANT ME?
COME TO PAPA!

I WASN'T EXPECTING THIS.
HE'S PRETTY CONVINCING. ABOUT THE RIGHT HEIGHT... SOUNDS ABOUT THE SAME... HAS RAZOR-SHARP CLAWS...
COULD IT BE.
HECK, PEOPLE WERE CONVINCED I WAS DEAD ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION.
STOP. CALM DOWN. TAKE IT EASY.
MY SPIDER-SENSE ISN'T TINGLING. HE'S NOT GOING TO ATTACK.
HE DOESN'T MEAN ME ANY HARM.
THIS WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST TIME I RAN UP AGAINST A GHOST.
EVEN IF HE IS AN IMPOSTOR, HE'S NOT OUT TO GET ME.
AND MY GUT TELLS ME...
I MUST BE GOING BANANAS.
YOU'RE THE REAL THING, AREN'T YOU ?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD.
I HEAR THAT ALL THE TIME.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.
WHY DO I ALWAYS DO THAT ?
THIS IS RIDICULOUS!
WHY DO I ALWAYS ATTACK FIRST ?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME ?
THIS IS GETTING TO BE A REALLY STUPID HABIT. DO I ALWAYS HAVE TO MAKE AN IDIOT OUT OF MYSELF AND PUMMEL SOME UNKNOWING DO GOODER WITHOUT STOPPING TO QUESTION HIM FIRST ?
GEEZ, I'M IMPULSIVE.
YOU MUST THINK I'M A REAL...
UH.
SO WHAT'S GOING ON ?
GIRL'S BEEN KIDNAPED.
BEING HELD IN THE WAREHOUSE.

YIPE
THAT'S THE...
THAT'S THE WAREHOUSE WHERE THE ROBBER WHO SHOT MY UNCLE BEN HID OUT.

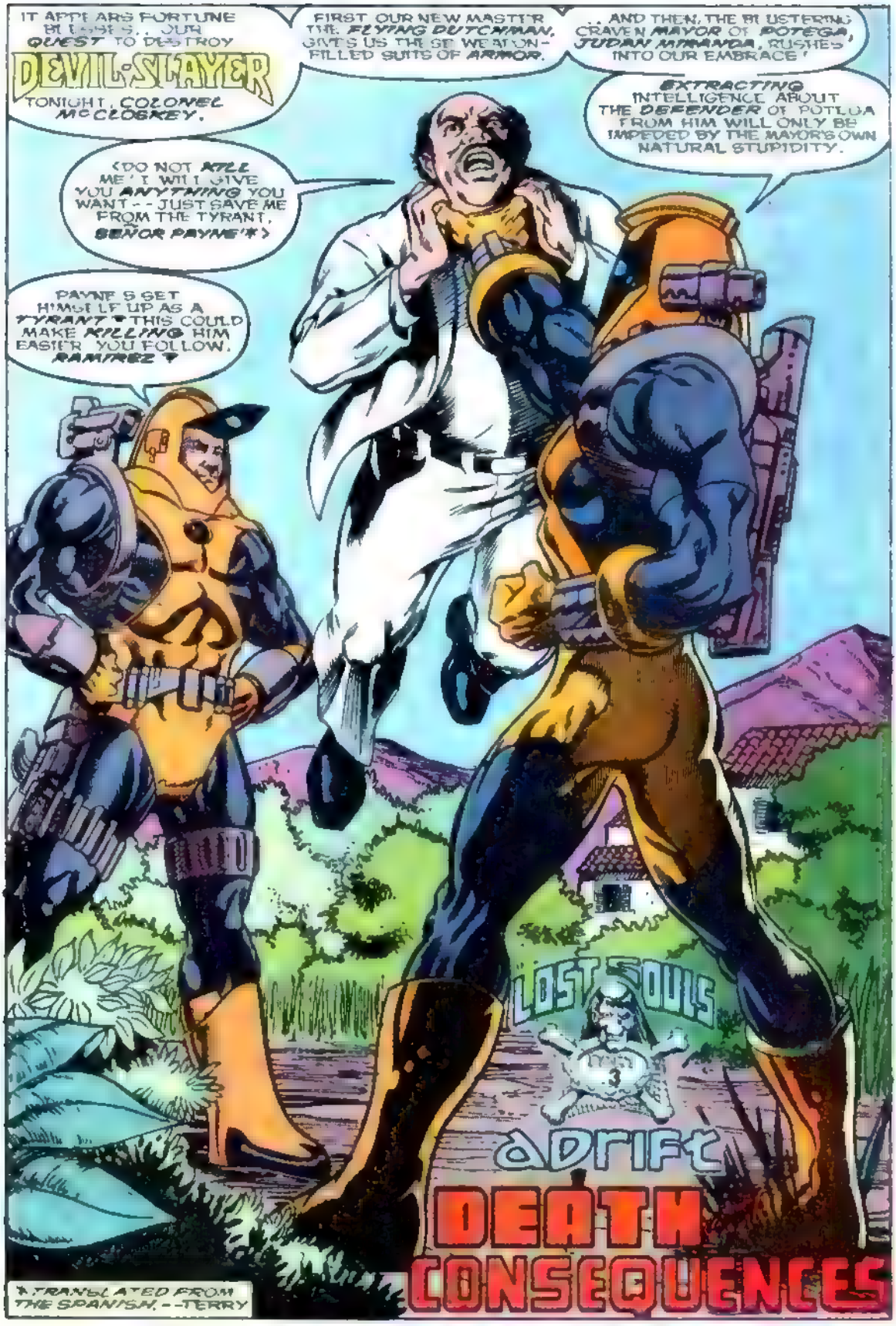
THIS IS TOO MUCH.
MY EX-ROOMATE NOW LANDLORD, HARRY OSBORN, TAKING UP THE GREEN GOBLIN GUISE AFTER HIS FATHER DIED I CAN BELIEVE.
HARRY'S SHRINK TAKING UP THE ROLE I CAN SWALLOW.
AUNT MAY ALMOST MARRYING DOC OCK I CAN BUY.
NOW THIS?

OKAY. OKAY. SETTLE DOWN.
THIS ISN'T THAT FAR FETCHED.
IT'S THE SAME WAREHOUSE, BIG DEAL.
DOESN'T MEAN A THING.
NOTHING.
YOU WERE SAYING?

A GROUP OF EVIL MUTANTS HAS HER.
KIDNAPED HER FATHER TOO. HOPE TO FORCE HER TO DO THEIR BIDDING.
SHE'S A POTENTIALLY POWERFUL MUTANT WHOSE LIMITATIONS HAVEN'T BEEN DETERMINED.
BAD GUYS WANT HER.

I CAN'T LET ANY MORE INNOCENTS DIE.
WE'VE GOT TO STOP THEM.
I KNOW.
THAT'S WHY I'M HERE.
BRIGHT KID.

SHUT YOUR YAP.
DON'T DO ANYTHING STUPID.
FOLLOW MY LEAD.
UH... WOLVERINE ?
UH...
KEEP QUIET.
CLICK
OOPS...
CONTINUES NEXT ISSUE...

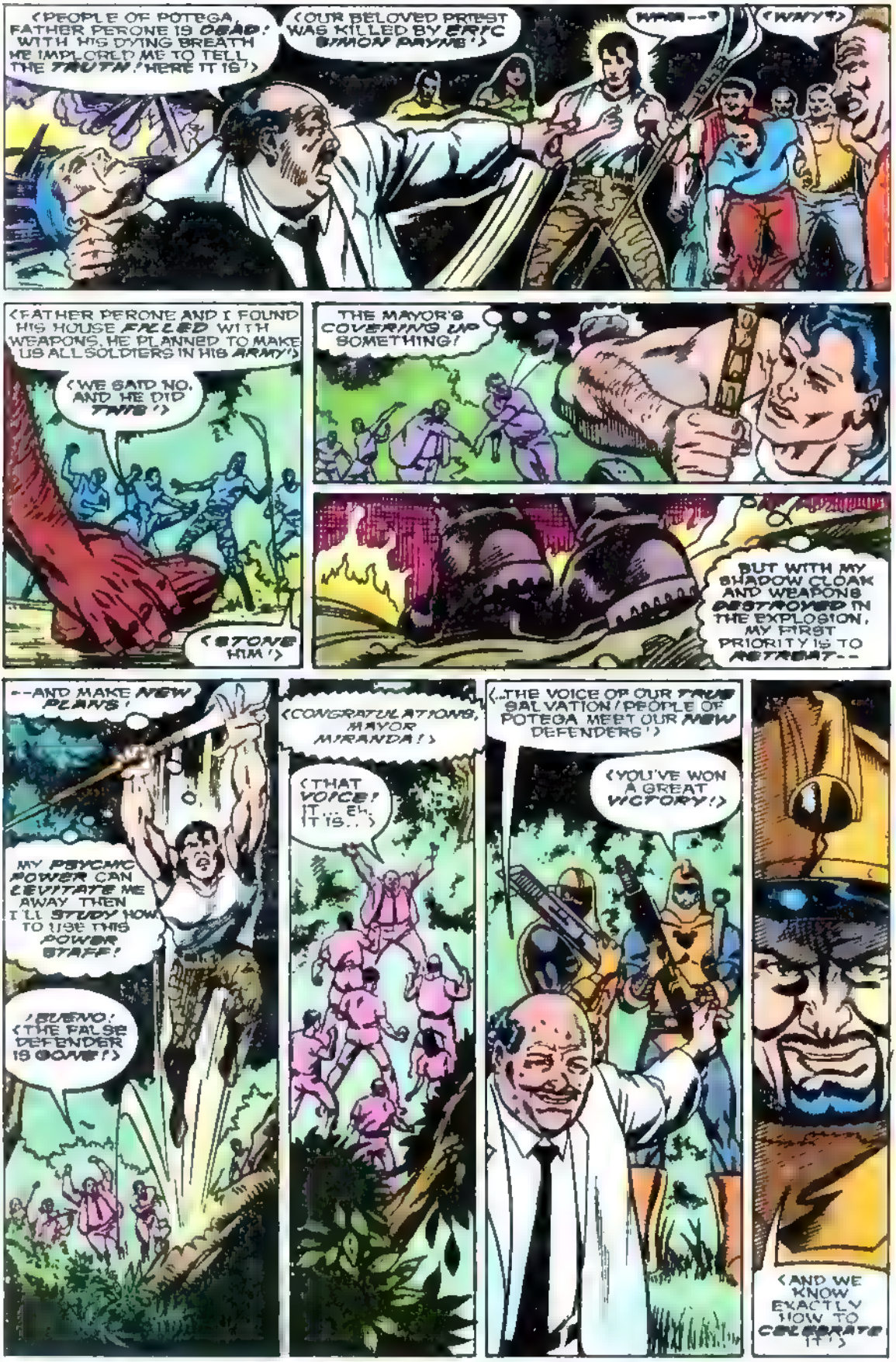

IT APPEARS FORTUNE BLESSES OUR QUEST TO DESTROY DEVIL-SLAYER TONIGHT, COLONEL McCLOSKEY.
FIRST OUR NEW MASTER THE FLYING DUTCHMAN, GIVES US THE SE WEAPON-FILLED SUITS OF ARMOR.
. . AND THEN, THE BLUSTERING CRAVEN MAYOR OF POTEGA, JUDAH MIRANDA, RUSHES INTO OUR EMBRACE!
EXTRACTING INTELLIGENCE ABOUT THE DEFENDER OF POTEGA FROM HIM WILL ONLY BE IMPEDED BY THE MAYOR'S OWN NATURAL STUPIDITY.
<DO NOT KILL ME! I WILL GIVE YOU ANYTHING YOU WANT--JUST SAVE ME FROM THE TYRANT, SENOR PAYNE!*>
PAYNE'S SET HIMSELF UP AS A TYRANT? THIS COULD MAKE KILLING HIM EASIER. YOU FOLLOW, RAMIREZ?
LOST SOULS
3
ADRIFT
DEATH CONSEQUENCES
*TRANSLATED FROM THE SPANISH. --TERRY

SI! COLONEL McCLOSKEY!
¿SEÑOR MAYOR TO LIBERATE POTEGA, WE MUST BECOME ALLIES--AND FRIENDS!¿
¿TELL US WHAT HAPPENED?
SI!
¿H-HE CAME FROM NOWHERE. . USING WONDROUS WEAPONS THAT STOPPED THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND DESTROYED THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT'S HELICOPTERS!¿
¿AFTER SO MUCH TERRIBLE WAR, POTEGA FINALLY KNEW PEACE. THEN SEÑOR PAYNE SEIZED CONTROL. I ESCAPED BEFORE HE KILLED ME!¿
AS COLONEL McCLOSKEY AND COLONEL RAMIREZ BEGIN TO PLAN...
¿I MUST LEAVE--¿
¿--BEFORE THEY LEARN I LIED!¿
¿GOING SOMEWHERE, MAYOR? PERHAPS TO BETRAY US TO DEVIL-SLAYER--¿
¿--AND WIN HIS FAVOR BECAUSE YOU DON'T BELIEVE WE HAVE THE POWER TO STOP HIM?¿
FWOOSH
¿IF THAT IS SO--YOU ARE WRONG!¿
¿NOW COME, SHOW US WHERE DEVIL-SLAYER LIVES SO THAT WE CAN FREE YOUR PEOPLE FROM HIS TYRANNY!¿

MEAN-WHILE.
TIME TO FACT FACTS THE BATTLE IS ESCALATING!
I'VE GOT TO START ARMING AND TRAINING THE VILLAGERS!
FORTUNATELY, MY SHADOW CLOAK GIVES ME THE MEANS TO DO THE FORMER AS FOR THE LATTER..
KNOCK KNOCK
THE DOOR! BETTER HIDE MY CLOAK--
--I'LL FIGURE OUT WHAT KIND OF A "WEAPON" THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE LATER.
<FATHER PEDRO? YOU'RE HERE TO TALK ABOUT THE INCIDENT AT THE FESTIVAL, AREN'T YOU?
SI, SEÑOR PAYNE. THE VILLAGERS ARE CONFUSED... WORRIED.>
<THEY ASKED ME TO SEE IF YOU ARE TRULY AN ANGEL--OR A DEVIL. SO I--
<IN THE NAME OF HEAVEN--THERE ARE ENOUGH WEAPONS HERE TO START A WAR!>
<OR KEEP ONE AWAY WITH THE VILLAGERS' HELP I WILL--
¡NO! <THEY ARE PEASANTS, FARMERS--PEOPLE OF PEACE! YOU GIVE THEM GUNS--
<--AND YOU GIVE OUR GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN C.I.A. THE EXCUSE THEY NEED TO USE THEIR BOMBS TO DESTROY POTEGA!>
<HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE? UNLESS YOU SAID YOU HAVE POWERFUL ENEMIES>
<THAT WON'T HAPPEN.>
<IS IT FOR YOUR WAR AGAINST THEM THAT YOU WOULD ARM US?>
¡NO!
<I DON'T BELIEVE YOU!>
<I MUST TELL THE COLONELS!>

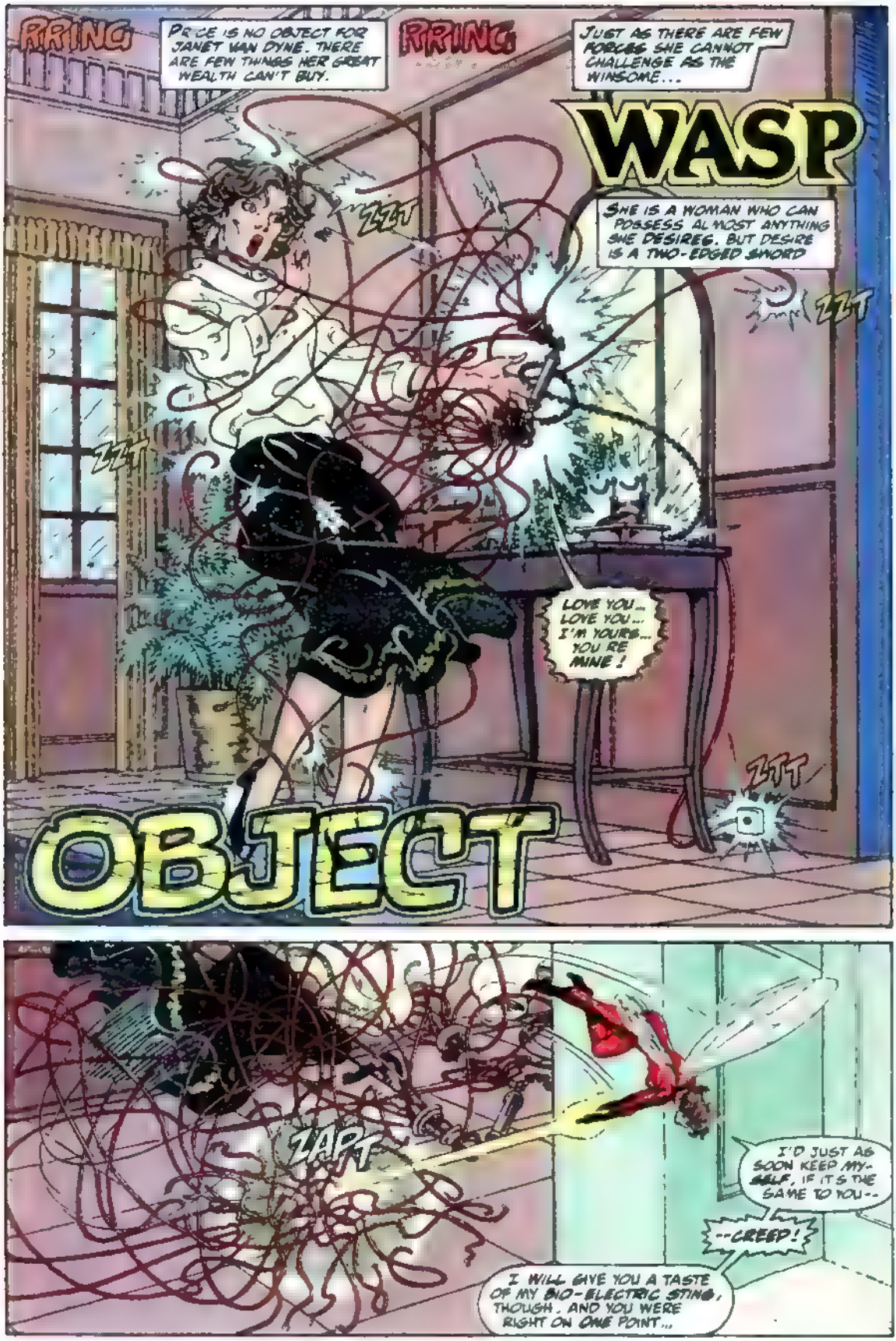
¿SEÑOR PAYNE IS ARMING THE VILLAGE! HIS HOUSE IS FILLED WITH WEAPONS!
¿SO HE'S BECOMING A REAL WARLORD, EH?
¡SI! ¿AND FATHER PERONE IS HIS PRISONER!
¿THE VILLAGE PRIEST?
¡SI! ¿IF YOU ATTACK NOW, YOU CAN SAVE HIM FROM SEÑOR PAYNE!
¿SAVE HIM?
SHOOS
¿WE WANT TO KILL THEM BOTH!
¿QUE--? ¡NO!
¿FATHER, I ONLY WANT TO USE THEM AS PICKETS--GUARDS!
¿FOR THAT YOU NEED ALL THIS?
¿NO, THEY'RE FOR ME!
¿WHAT'S THAT SOUND?
¡INCOMING!
¿QUE?
KA-BOOM

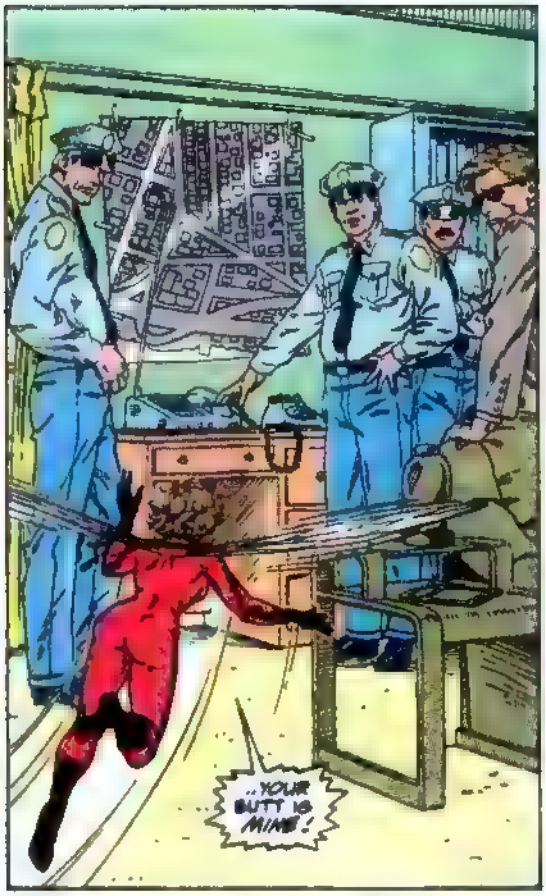
‹YOU DID WELL, SEÑOR MAYOR. THANKS TO YOU, THEY ARE BOTH DEAD!›
‹BOTH--? NO, NOT FATHER PERONE?›
HIS GUILT MAKES HIM UNRELIABLE. I SHOULD SHOOT HIM NOW
‹IT WASN'T MY FAULT, FATHER!›
‹THEY FORCED ME!›
WAIT, RAMIREZ! PAYNE MAY HAVE SURVIVED!
‹IF HE DID, THE MAYOR COULD STILL BE USEFUL!›
‹MAYOR MIRANDA! WHAT ELSE WAS HIT?›
‹WHAT ELSE--? EH NOTHING! SEÑOR PAYNE-- YOU ARE UNSCRATCHED?›
YES, APPARENTLY THANKS TO THIS STAFF!
‹B-BUT, FATHER PERONE! IS HE?›
‹HE'S DYING.›
¡NO!
‹SUCH FEAR HELD IN ONE WORD, JUDAN. WHY? THIS IS THE LORD'S WILL.›
‹AH...THE ANSWER IS IN YOUR EYES! THEY BETRAY YOUR HAND IN THIS...!›
‹NO, FATHER! I DID NOT SHOOT YOU!›
‹YOUR SOUL IS NOT YET LOST, JUDAN. REDEEM YOURSELF. TELL THE TRUTH...›

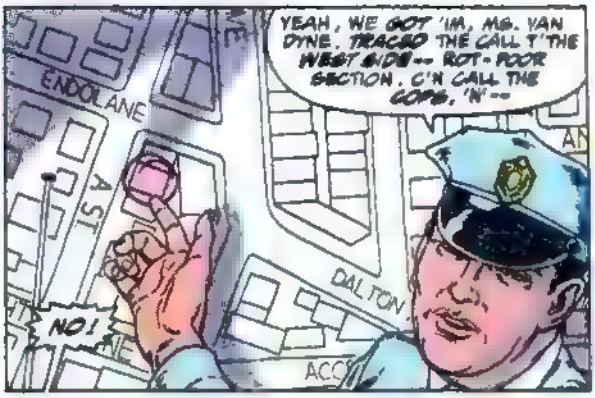

‹PEOPLE OF POTEGA, FATHER PERONE IS DEAD! WITH HIS DYING BREATH HE IMPLORED ME TO TELL THE TRUTH! HERE IT IS!›
‹OUR BELOVED PRIEST WAS KILLED BY ERIC SIMON PAYNE!›
HMM--?
‹WHY?›
‹FATHER PERONE AND I FOUND HIS HOUSE FILLED WITH WEAPONS. HE PLANNED TO MAKE US ALL SOLDIERS IN HIS ARMY!›
‹WE SAID NO, AND HE DID THIS!›
‹STONE HIM!›
THE MAYOR'S COVERING UP SOMETHING!
BUT WITH MY SHADOW CLOAK AND WEAPONS DESTROYED IN THE EXPLOSION, MY FIRST PRIORITY IS TO RETREAT--
--AND MAKE NEW PLANS!
MY PSYCHIC POWER CAN LEVITATE ME AWAY THEN I'LL STUDY HOW TO USE THIS POWER STAFF!
‹BUENO! ‹THE FALSE DEFENDER IS GONE!›
‹CONGRATULATIONS, MAYOR MIRANDA!›
‹THAT VOICE! IT... EH, IT IS..›
‹...THE VOICE OF OUR TRUE SALVATION! PEOPLE OF POTEGA MEET OUR NEW DEFENDERS!›
‹YOU'VE WON A GREAT VICTORY!›
‹AND WE KNOW EXACTLY HOW TO CELEBRATE IT!›

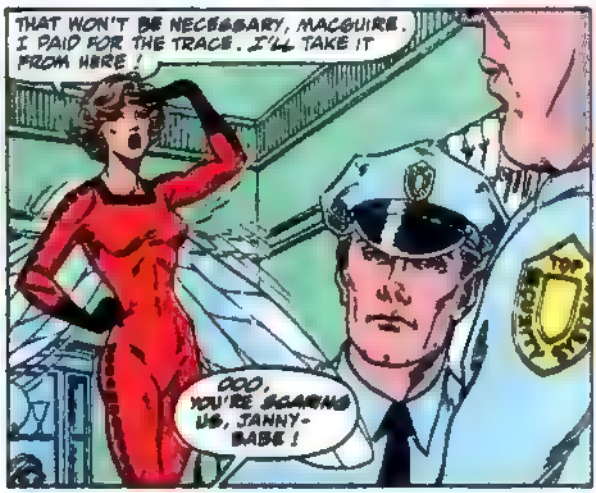
ELSEWHERE...
THIS SHOULD BE FAR ENOUGH. MY BET IS THAT THE MAYOR SOLD OUT TO SOMEONE--AND POTEGA'S GOING TO PAY FOR IT!
BUT BEFORE I CAN RETURN AND SAVE THE VILLAGE, I NEED MORE POWER!
LIKE THE POWER IN THIS STAFF! THE TRICK WILL BE USING THESE RUNES TO UNLOCK THAT LOWER--AND NOT GET DESTROYED!
BAH! THERE IS AN EASIER WAY, ASSASSIN. ACCEPT MY OFFER.
REVENGE DETACHMENT! NO! MY SOUL REMAINS MINE--I'M NO LONGER AN ASSASSIN!
SO THAT IS WHY YOU KEEP THIS VULGAR ILLUSION OVER YOUR COSTUME!
WHA--?
K-BUCH
ALLOW ME TO CLARIFY!
I WAVE MY HAND AND BEHOLD--THE VILLAGE OF POTEGA!
I FIND SUCH WANTON EXERCISE OF UNHOLY POWER--
--SUCH CELEBRATION OF DEATH AND DESTRUCTION--
--TO BE THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE.
WHOOM
KBOOM
BOOM
YOU WILL, TOO, ONCE YOUR SOUL IS IN THE BOOM OF MEPHISTO!
BOOM

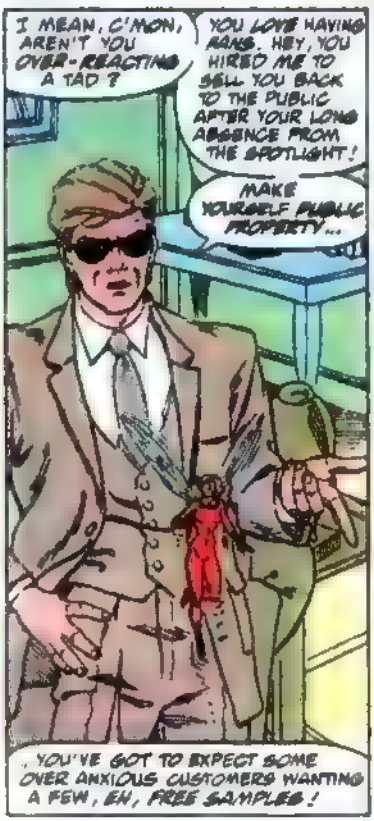
FRIEND, I'M TURNING MY BACK ON A FANTASTICAL GAME FOR YOU AND POTENTIAL MY ONE OF THE PIECES!
OF COURSE
I'M GAMED OVER!
AND YOU LOSE! NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY OR DO I'LL NEVER SELL MY SOUL!
YOU WILL REGRET THAT FOLLY FOR AN ETERNITY!
BLOCK!
BECAUSE WHEREIN I MIGHT HAVE BEEN IMPORTUNED
UNH!
NOW I SHALL SAVAGELY SEIZE!
COLONEL MCCLOSKEY! COLONEL RAMIREZ - KILL HIM!
WITH PLEASURE!
COMING UP IN NEXT ISSUE!
THE END OF DEVIL SLAYER!

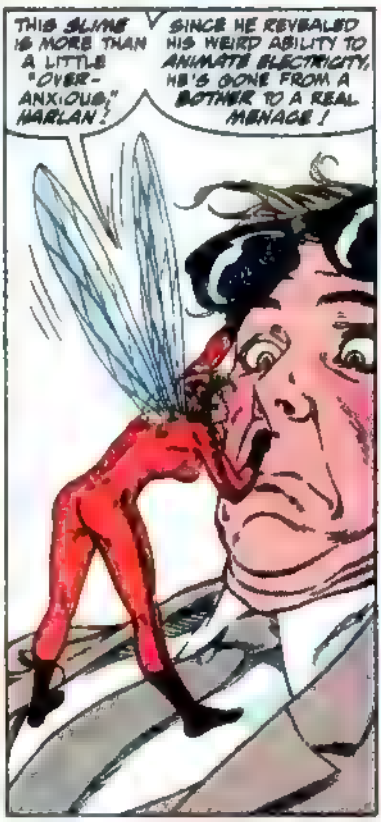

RRING
PRICE IS NO OBJECT FOR JANET VAN DYNE. THERE ARE FEW THINGS HER GREAT WEALTH CAN'T BUY.
RRING
JUST AS THERE ARE FEW FORCES SHE CANNOT CHALLENGE AS THE WINSOME...
WASP
SHE IS A WOMAN WHO CAN POSSESS ALMOST ANYTHING SHE DESIRES. BUT DESIRE IS A TWO-EDGED SWORD
ZZZT
ZZZT
ZZZT
LOVE YOU... LOVE YOU... I'M YOURS... YOU'RE MINE!
ZZT
OBJECT
ZAPT
I'D JUST AS SOON KEEP MYSELF, IF IT'S THE SAME TO YOU--
--CREEP!
I WILL GIVE YOU A TASTE OF MY BIO-ELECTRIC STING, THOUGH. AND YOU WERE RIGHT ON ONE POINT...


..YOUR BUTT IS MINE!

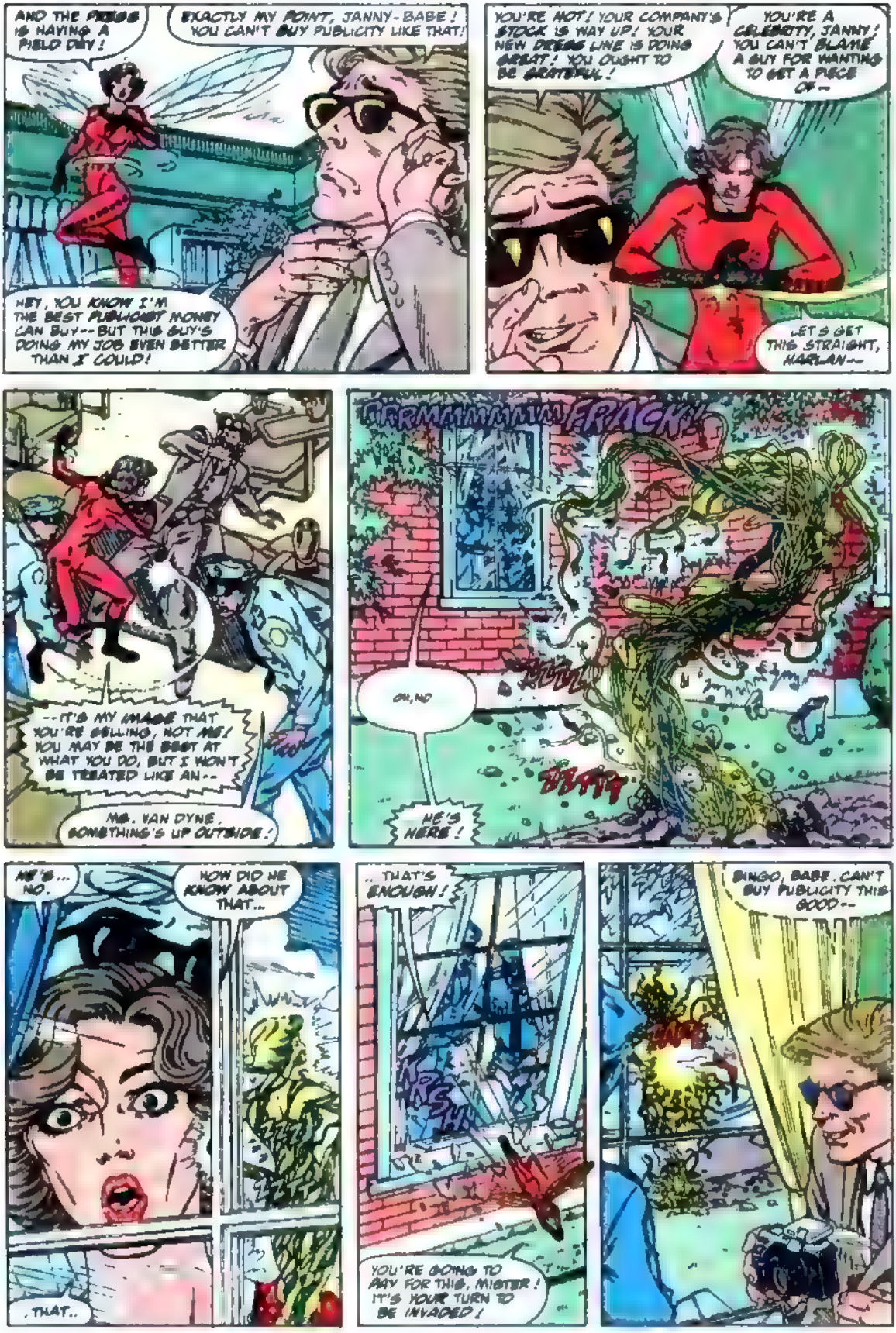

YEAH, WE GOT 'IM, MS. VAN DYNE. TRACED THE CALL T'THE WEST SIDE -- ROT-POOR SECTION. C'N CALL THE COPS, 'N' --
ENDOLANE
DALTON
NO!

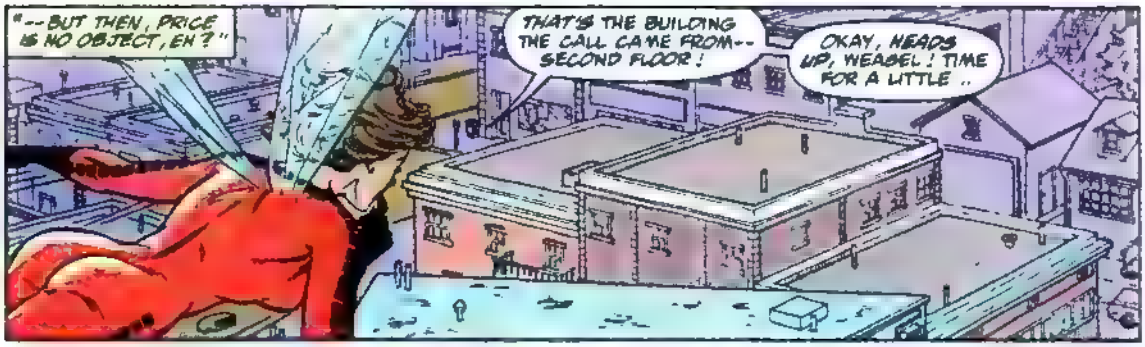

THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY, MACGUIRE. I PAID FOR THE TRACE. I'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE!
OOO, YOU'RE SCARING US, JANNY-BABE!

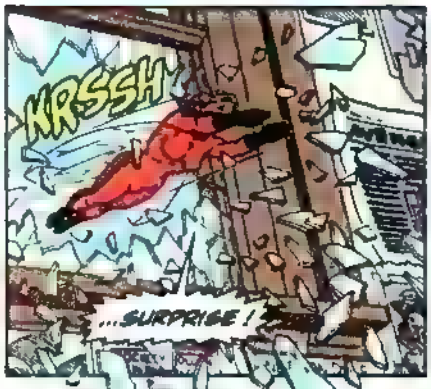

I MEAN, C'MON, AREN'T YOU OVER-REACTING A TAD?
YOU LOVE HAVING FANS. HEY, YOU HIRED ME TO SELL YOU BACK TO THE PUBLIC AFTER YOUR LONG ABSENCE FROM THE SPOTLIGHT!
MAKE YOURSELF PUBLIC PROPERTY...
..YOU'VE GOT TO EXPECT SOME OVER ANXIOUS CUSTOMERS WANTING A FEW, EH, FREE SAMPLES!

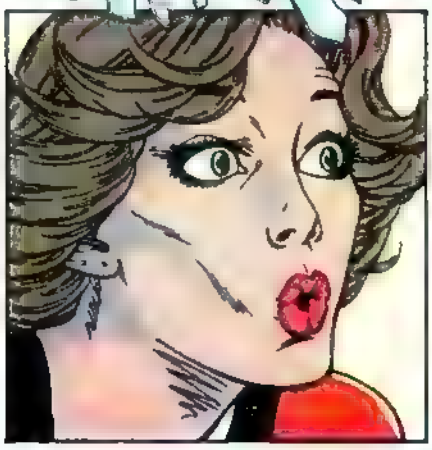

THIS SLIME IS MORE THAN A LITTLE "OVER-ANXIOUS," HARLAN!
SINCE HE REVEALED HIS WEIRD ABILITY TO ANIMATE ELECTRICITY, HE'S GONE FROM A BOTHER TO A REAL MENACE!

"I CAN'T GO ANYWHERE WITHOUT HIM SOMEHOW FINDING ME.
THEATRE
"HE'S MADE ME CRAZY -- NOT KNOWING HOW HE KNOWS, OR WHERE HE'LL STRIKE NEXT -- FEELING WATCHED!"

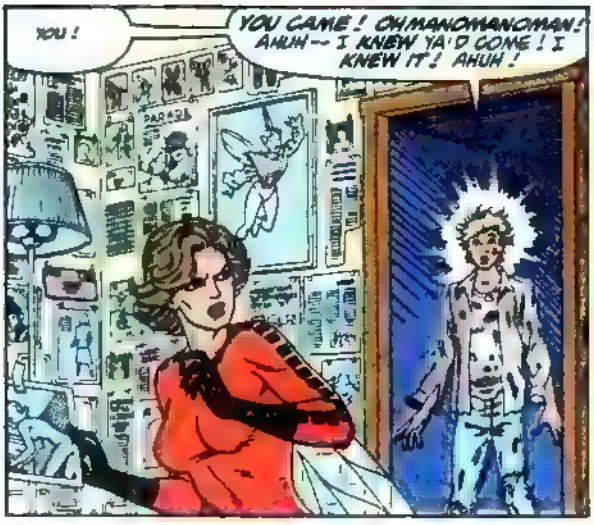

AND THE PRESS IS HAVING A FIELD DAY!
EXACTLY MY POINT, JANNY-BABE! YOU CAN'T BUY PUBLICITY LIKE THAT!
HEY, YOU KNOW I'M THE BEST PUBLICIST MONEY CAN BUY--BUT THIS GUY'S DOING MY JOB EVEN BETTER THAN I COULD!
YOU'RE HOT! YOUR COMPANY'S STOCK IS WAY UP! YOUR NEW DRESS LINE IS DOING GREAT! YOU OUGHT TO BE GRATEFUL!
YOU'RE A CELEBRITY, JANNY! YOU CAN'T BLAME A GUY FOR WANTING TO GET A PIECE OF--
LET'S GET THIS STRAIGHT, HARLAN--
--IT'S MY IMAGE THAT YOU'RE SELLING, NOT ME! YOU MAY BE THE BEST AT WHAT YOU DO, BUT I WON'T BE TREATED LIKE AN--
MS. VAN DYNE, SOMETHING'S UP OUTSIDE!
FRRMMMMMM
FRACK!
OH, NO
HE'S HERE!
HE'S... NO.
HOW DID HE KNOW ABOUT THAT...
..THAT.
..THAT'S ENOUGH!
YOU'RE GOING TO PAY FOR THIS, MISTER! IT'S YOUR TURN TO BE INVADED!
BINGO, BABE. CAN'T BUY PUBLICITY THIS GOOD--


"--BUT THEN, PRICE IS NO OBJECT, EH?"
THAT'S THE BUILDING THE CALL CAME FROM-- SECOND FLOOR!
OKAY, HEADS UP, WEASEL! TIME FOR A LITTLE..

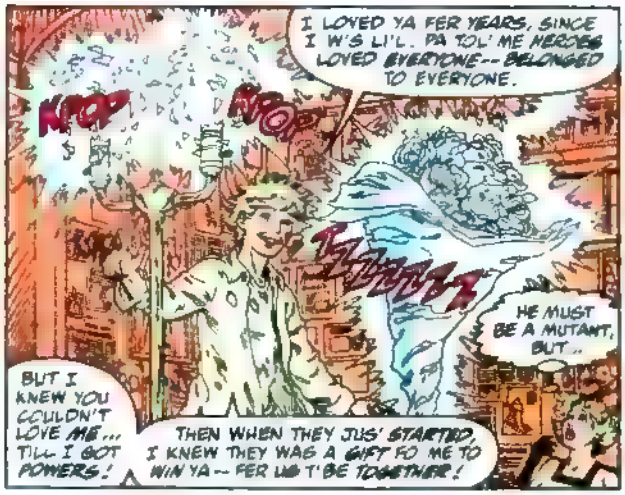

KRSSH
...SURPRISE!

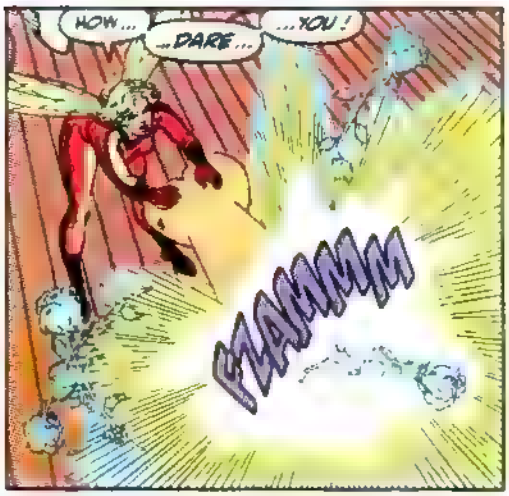


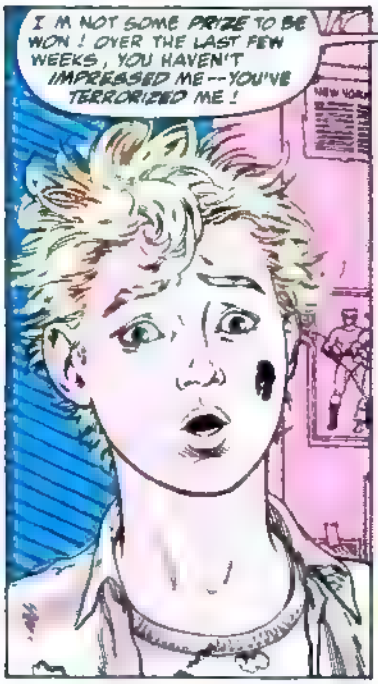
OH, MY-- HE'S GOT SOME SORT OF A... A SHRINE SET UP HERE! OLD ARTICLES-- MEMENTOS--
--PICTURES OF ME HE COULDN'T POSSIBLY HAVE!
HOW?
HEY! WHAT ARE YA--


YOU!
YOU CAME! OH MANOMANOMAN! AHUH-- I KNEW YA'D COME! I KNEW IT! AHUH!

IF I SHOWED YA HOW MUCH I LOVED YA, I KNEW YA'D COME!

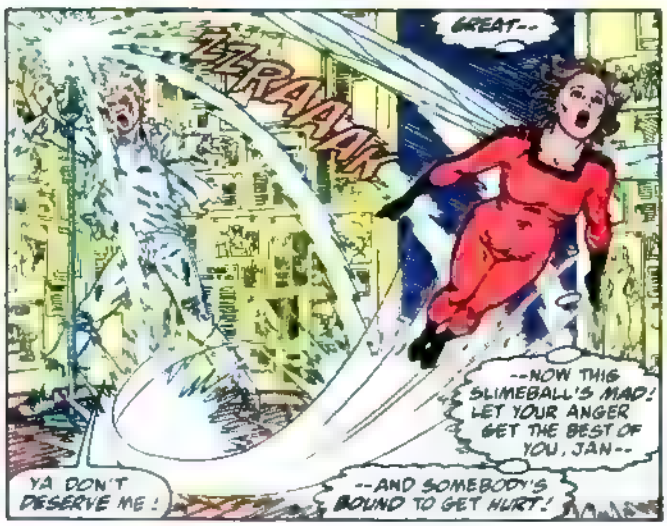

I LOVED YA FER YEARS, SINCE I W'S LI'L. PA TOL' ME HEROES LOVED EVERYONE-- BELONGED TO EVERYONE.
KRCP
KRCP
HE MUST BE A MUTANT, BUT..
BUT I KNEW YOU COULDN'T LOVE ME... TILL I GOT POWERS!
THEN WHEN THEY JUS' STARTED, I KNEW THEY WAS A GIFT FO ME TO WIN YA-- FER US T'BE TOGETHER!


HOW...
...DARE...
...YOU!
KRAKKKK

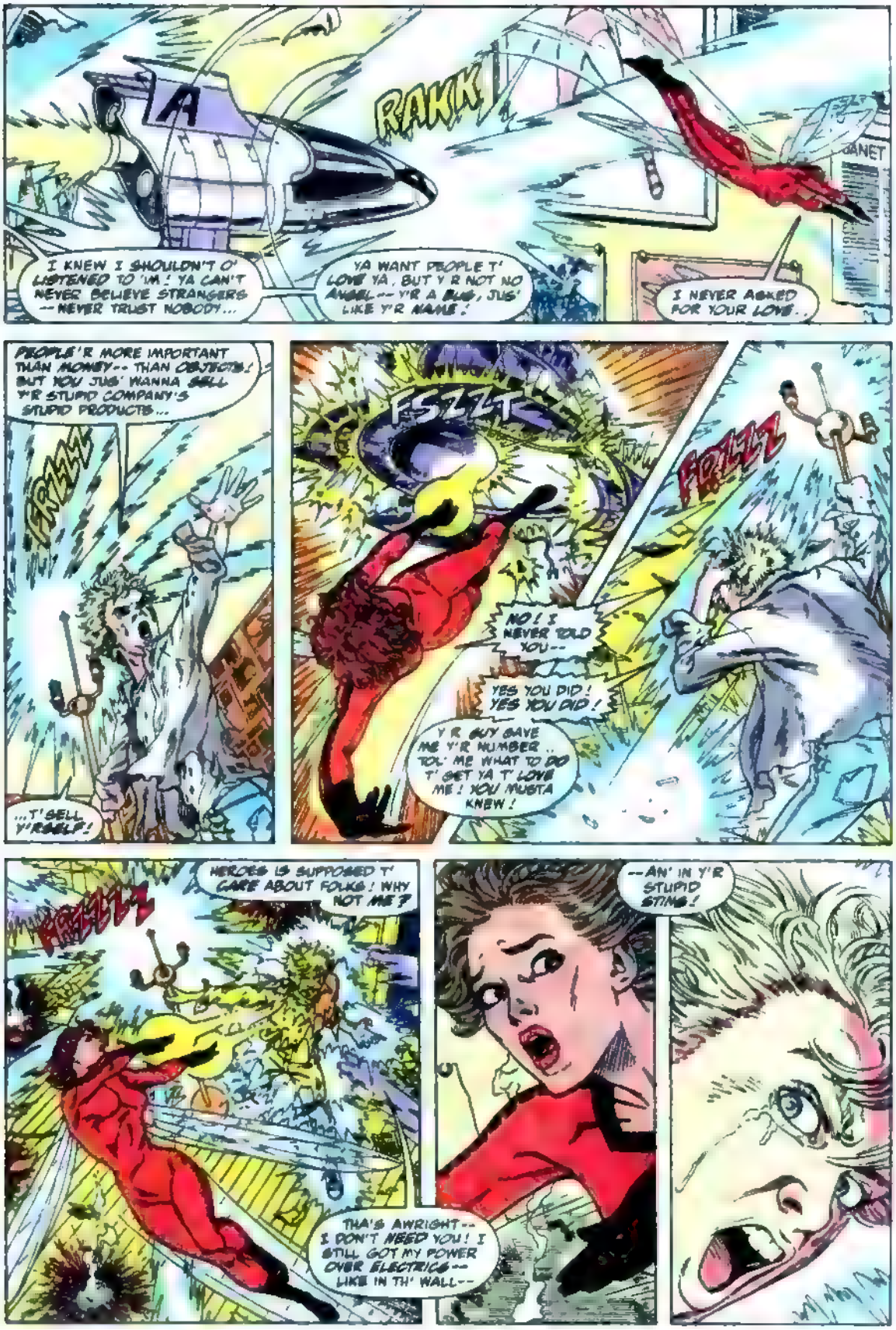

I M NOT SOME PRIZE TO BE WON! OVER THE LAST FEW WEEKS, YOU HAVEN'T IMPRESSED ME--YOU'VE TERRORIZED ME!

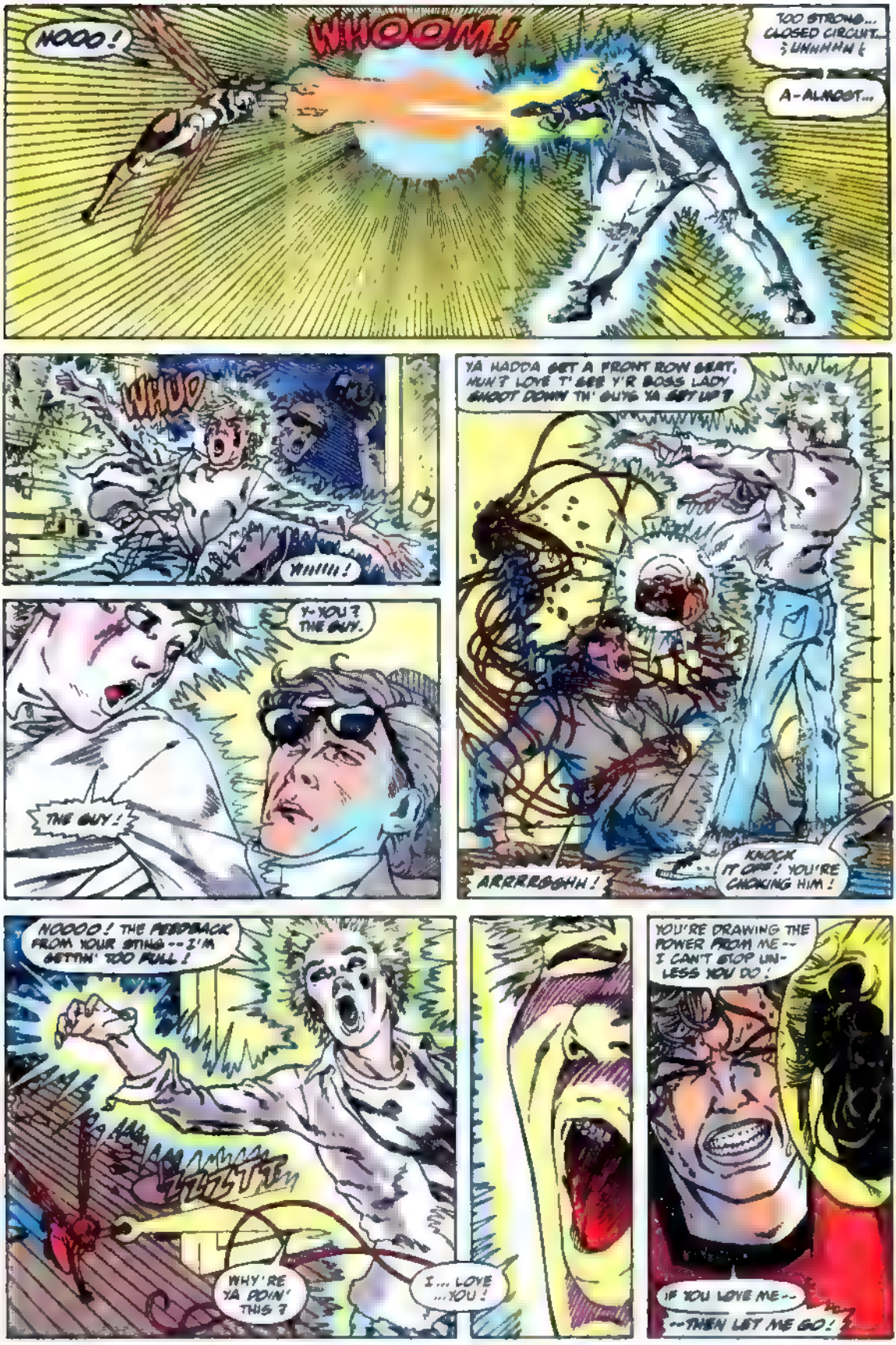
I'M SICK OF HAVING SOMEONE ELSE'S HANDS ALL OVER MY LIFE!
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND..
I DON'T WANT YOU IN MY LIFE, CREEP..

...THOUGHT T'R DIFF R'NT.. SPECIAL...
BUT Y'R JUS' LIKE ALL TH' REST!


GREAT--
--NOW THIS SLIMEBALL'S MAD! LET YOUR ANGER GET THE BEST OF YOU, JAN--
--AND SOMEBODY'S BOUND TO GET HURT!
YA DON'T DESERVE ME!

STUPID...
...TRASH!
...STINKIN'...
HARLAN, MY MAN, THIS IS GOING TO BE GREAT..

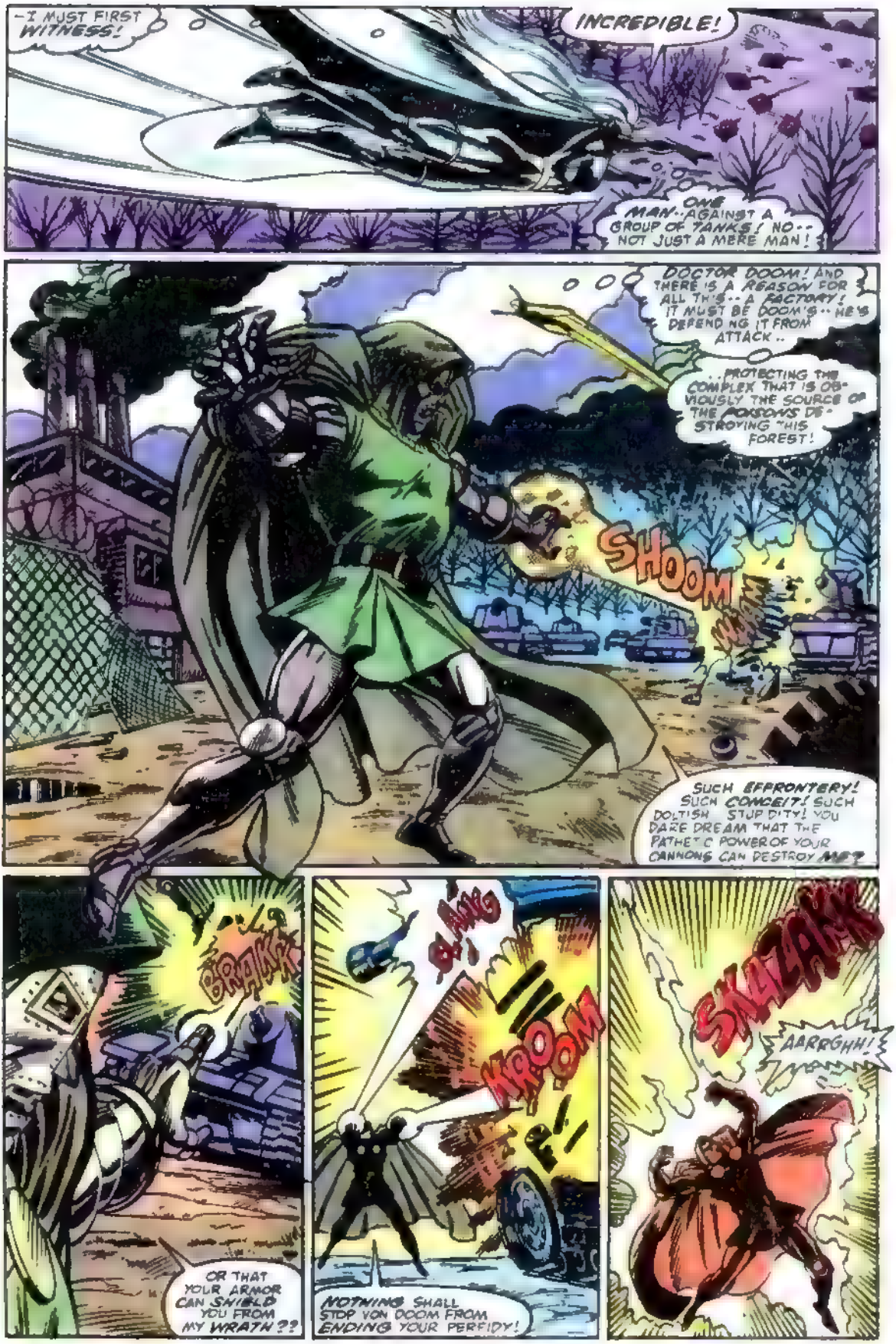

RAKK
I KNEW I SHOULDN'T O' LISTENED TO 'IM! YA CAN'T NEVER BELIEVE STRANGERS --NEVER TRUST NOBODY...
YA WANT PEOPLE T' LOVE YA, BUT Y'R NOT NO ANGEL-- Y'R A BUG, JUS' LIKE Y'R NAME!
I NEVER ASKED FOR YOUR LOVE..
PEOPLE'R MORE IMPORTANT THAN MONEY-- THAN OBJECTS! BUT YOU JUS' WANNA SELL Y'R STUPID COMPANY'S STUPID PRODUCTS...
...T' SELL Y'RSELF!
FSZZT
NO! I NEVER TOLD YOU--
YES YOU DID! YES YOU DID!
Y'R GUY GAVE ME Y'R NUMBER.. TOL' ME WHAT TO DO T' GET YA T' LOVE ME! YOU MUSTA KNEW!
HEROES IS SUPPOSED T' CARE ABOUT FOLKS! WHY NOT ME?
THA'S AWRIGHT-- I DON'T NEED YOU! I STILL GOT MY POWER OVER ELECTRICS-- LIKE IN TH' WALL--
--AN' IN Y'R STUPID STIMS!

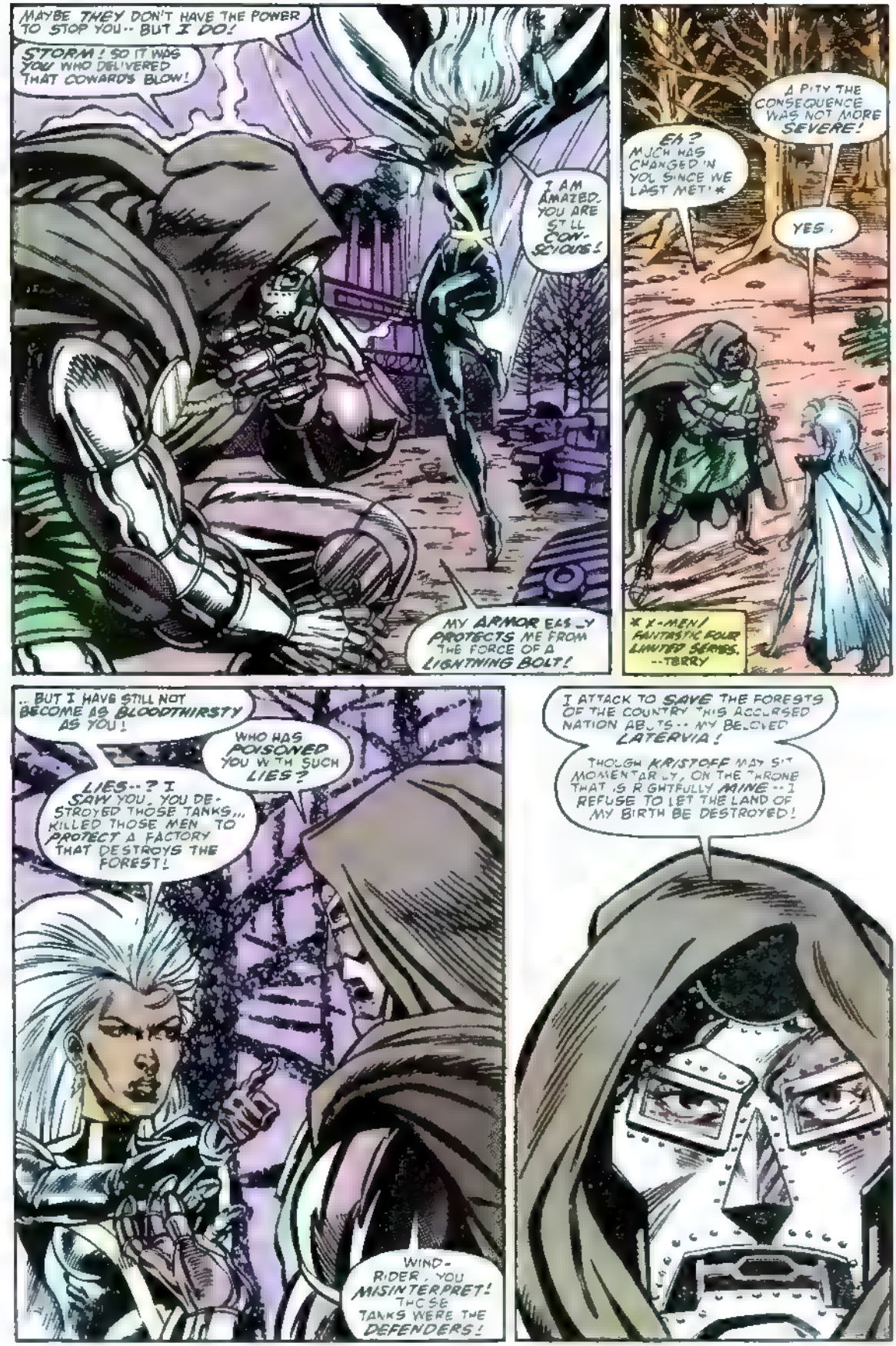

NOOO!
WHOOM!
TOO STRONG... CLOSED CIRCUIT... ;UHHHHM (
A-ALMOST...
WHUD
Yhhhh!
YA HADDA GET A FRONT ROW SEAT, HUN? LOVE T' SEE Y'R BOSS LADY SHOOT DOWN TH' GUYS YA SET UP?
Y-YOU? THE GUY.
THE GUY!
ARRRRGGHH!
KNOCK IT OFF! YOU'RE CHOKING HIM!
NOOOO! THE FEEDBACK FROM YOUR STING -- I'M GETTIN' TOO FULL!
WHY'RE YA DOIN' THIS?
I... LOVE ...YOU!
YOU'RE DRAWING THE POWER FROM ME -- I CAN'T STOP UNLESS YOU DO!
IF YOU LOVE ME--
--THEN LET ME GO!

'KAY... I'LL CUT OFF...
...TOO FULL...
IT WAS... YOU, WASN'T IT, HARLAN? YOU USED THIS BOY.
...BURNING...
WELL, LOOK AT HIM, JANNY-BABE! THE KID'S A PSYCHO--A FREAK! IF IT WASN'T YOU HE FIXED ON...
I JUST WORKED IT SO YOU'D PLAY THE HARD, AND GET A LITTLE EXTRA PEGGS!
I DID WHAT YOU HIRED ME TO DO!
U-HELP...
...TOO MUCH ...ELECTRIC...
THE CLOSED CIRCUIT... SHOWED THERE MIGHT BE SOME CONNECTION IN OUR POWERS. MAYBE--
POW
¡UHHHH!
--I CAN FUNNEL OFF THE EXCESS ENERGY... AND DISPOSE OF IT!
YOU'RE RIGHT. I'M AS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS AS YOU. YOU CREATED THE IMAGE, HARLAN, BUT I PLAYED IT.
YEAH--AN' WE STILL GOT TIME TO GET THE T.V. BOYS DOWN HERE, AND CASH IN!
"PEOPLE R MORE IMPORTANT THAN MONEY..."
HARLAN?
YEAH, JANNY-BABE?
YOU'RE FIRED.
The End.

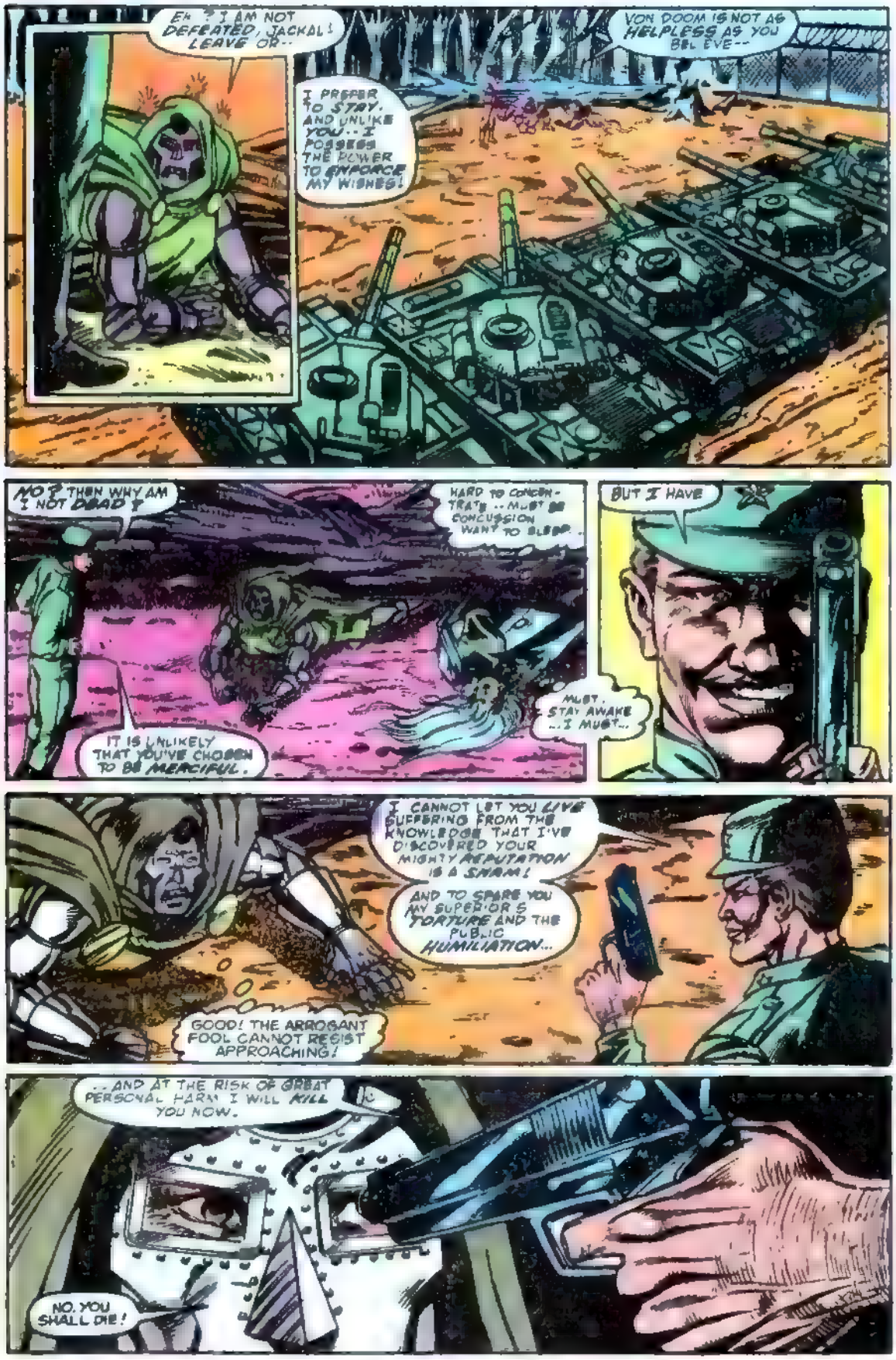
WHEN IT RAINS...
GODDESS--! I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN HOW EXHILARATING THIS IS.
IT HAS BEEN TOO LONG SINCE I HAVE SOARED THUS THROUGH THE AIR--
..LEAVING BELOW THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EARTH THAT BIND ME TO IT!
KRAKA-BOOM
AH..A THUNDERCLOUD! IT REMINDS ME OF ANOTHER NEED I HAVE THAT OF A SHOWER!
ONE WHOSE WATER IS FREE OF SUCH "PURIFYING AGENTS" AS CHLORINE!
FEATURING:
STORM
&
DOCTOR DOOM

FOR ONLY WATER SUCH AS THIS CAN CLEANSE MY BODY...
...AND WASH FROM MY SOUL THE STILL-LINGERING TAINT OF INFERNO!
BUT..
BY THE PURE SNOWS OF KILIMANJARO! THE RAIN--
--IT BURNS!
ACID RAIN! MUST FUNNEL THE WINDS--
--HAVE THEM CARRY ME CLEAR!
MERCIFUL GODDESS--THE FOREST! IT--IT IS DEAD!
ONLY INDUSTRIAL WASTE LIKE ACID RAIN CAN SO TOTALLY STRIP THE TREES!
AND MANKIND CLAIMS IT IS THE MUTANTS WHO MENACE THE EARTH!!
AND NOW EXPLOSIONS! A BATTLE IS BEING WAGED UP AHEAD. PERHAPS IT IS ONE NOT OF MY CONCERN. BUT BEFORE I CAN JUDGE--
BAROOM
WHOOM

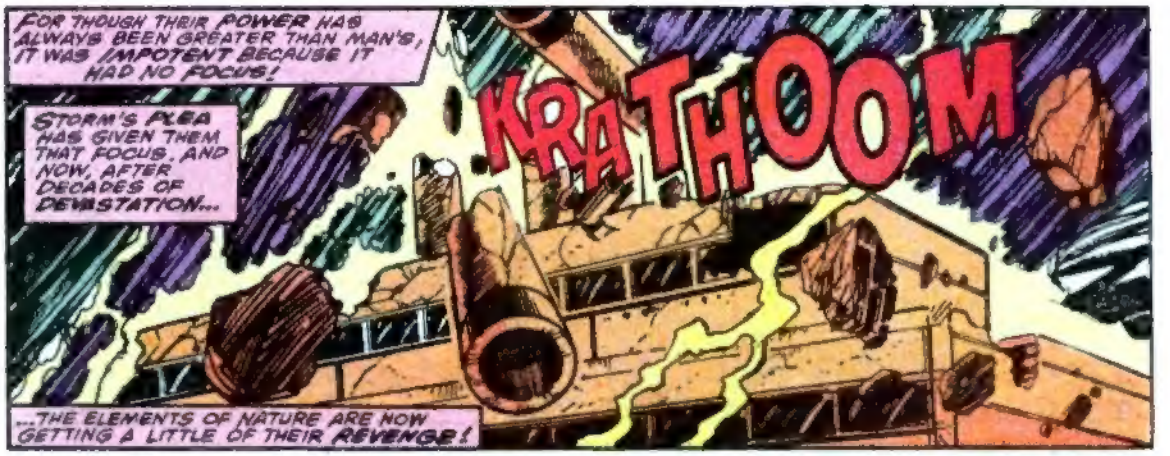

-I MUST FIRST WITNESS!
INCREDIBLE!
ONE MAN--AGAINST A GROUP OF TANKS! NO-- NOT JUST A MERE MAN!
DOCTOR DOOM! AND THERE IS A REASON FOR ALL THIS--A FACTORY! IT MUST BE DOOM'S--HE'S DEFENDING IT FROM ATTACK..
..PROTECTING THE COMPLEX THAT IS OBVIOUSLY THE SOURCE OF THE POISONS DESTROYING THIS FOREST!
SHOOM
SUCH EFFRONTERY! SUCH CONCEIT! SUCH DOLTISH STUPIDITY! YOU DARE DREAM THAT THE PATHETIC POWER OF YOUR CANNONS CAN DESTROY ME?
KRAKK
OR THAT YOUR ARMOR CAN SHIELD YOU FROM MY WRATH??
KLANG
KROOM
NOTHING SHALL STOP VON DOOM FROM ENDING YOUR PERFIDY!
SKLZZAKK
AARRGHH!


MAYBE THEY DON'T HAVE THE POWER TO STOP YOU-- BUT I DO!
STORM! SO IT WAS YOU WHO DELIVERED THAT COWARD'S BLOW!
I AM AMAZED. YOU ARE STILL CONSCIOUS!
MY ARMOR ELECTRICITY PROTECTS ME FROM THE FORCE OF A LIGHTNING BOLT!
A PITY THE CONSEQUENCE WAS NOT MORE SEVERE!
EH? MUCH HAS CHANGED IN YOU SINCE WE LAST MET! *
YES.
* X-MEN/ FANTASTIC FOUR LIMITED SERIES. --TERRY
.. BUT I HAVE STILL NOT BECOME AS BLOODTHIRSTY AS YOU!
WHO HAS POISONED YOU WITH SUCH LIES?
LIES--? I SAW YOU. YOU DESTROYED THOSE TANKS,.. KILLED THOSE MEN TO PROTECT A FACTORY THAT DESTROYS THE FOREST!
WIND-RIDER, YOU MISINTERPRET! THOSE TANKS WERE THE DEFENDERS!
I ATTACK TO SAVE THE FORESTS OF THE COUNTRY THIS ACCURSED NATION ABUTS-- MY BELOVED LATERVIA!
THOUGH KRISTOFF MAY SIT MOMENTARILY ON THE THRONE THAT IS RIGHTFULLY MINE-- I REFUSE TO LET THE LAND OF MY BIRTH BE DESTROYED!

LAUDABLE SENTIMENTS ... JUSTIFYING REPREHENSIBLE METHODS!
THE TANKS ARE DESTROYED, BUT THOSE LEFT INSIDE STILL LIVE!
HOLD! REINFORCEMENTS COME!
WE SHALL CONTINUE OUR DISCUSSION-- AFTER I HAVE DISPATCHED THEM.
NO!!
WHAT'S WRONG?
FIZZT
SPPKK
MY WEAPONS! YOUR ACCURSED LIGHTNING BOLT HAS SHORTED THE CIRCUITS!
BEHIND ME, WOMAN! MY ARMOR WILL PROTECT--
ARRGH!!
UNHH!
KAPOW
KAPOW
BWOOM
YOU DISAPPOINT ME, DESPOT...


EH ? I AM NOT DEFEATED, JACKAL! LEAVE OR--
I PREFER TO STAY. AND UNLIKE YOU--I POSSESS THE POWER TO ENFORCE MY WISHES!
VON DOOM IS NOT AS HELPLESS AS YOU BELIEVE--
NO? THEN WHY AM I NOT DEAD ?
IT IS UNLIKELY THAT YOU'VE CHOSEN TO BE MERCIFUL.
HARD TO CONCENTRATE--MUST BE CONCUSSION WANT TO SLEEP...
MUST. STAY AWAKE ...I MUST...
BUT I HAVE
I CANNOT LET YOU LIVE SUFFERING FROM THE KNOWLEDGE THAT I'VE DISCOVERED YOUR MIGHTY REPUTATION IS A SHAM!
AND TO SPARE YOU MY SUPERIOR'S TORTURE AND THE PUBLIC HUMILIATION...
GOOD! THE ARROGANT FOOL CANNOT RESIST APPROACHING!
--AND AT THE RISK OF GREAT PERSONAL HARM I WILL KILL YOU NOW.
NO. YOU SHALL DIE!

BUT...
WHAT MADNESS? THIS WIND! SO SUDDEN-- SO STRONG--AS IF INVOKED!
NO!
WHAKK
STORM! THIS IS YOUR DOING!
YES!
BUT THAT EFFORT-- SO HARD--!
THE WOMAN DID THIS? LUDICROUS!
BUT SINCE YOU SEEM TO CARE FOR HER, DOOM--
--SHE WILL DIE FIRST!
Oh, GODDESS--
--AS NEVER BEFORE, YOU MUST--
KRAKA-BWOOM
BRAK
BWANG
KRAK-SKAK
~HELP ME!!
AAahh!
STORM'S ACTIONS RESULT IN AN AWESOME PAROXYSM. YET DOOM SENSES SOMETHING EVEN MORE AWESOME--THE ENRAGED ELEMENTS ARE USING STORM--!


FOR THOUGH THEIR POWER HAS ALWAYS BEEN GREATER THAN MAN'S, IT WAS IMPOTENT BECAUSE IT HAD NO FOCUS!
STORM'S PLEA HAS GIVEN THEM THAT FOCUS, AND NOW, AFTER DECADES OF DEVASTATION...
KRATHOOM
...THE ELEMENTS OF NATURE ARE NOW GETTING A LITTLE OF THEIR REVENGE!

VON DOOM!
YES. WHILE YOU GAPED, I LOOSED MY LEG ARMOR AND FREED MYSELF!
M-MERCY, VON DOOM! PLEASE-- S-SPARE ME!

YOU DISGUST ME! GO-- LIVE IN THE SHAME YOU ASCRIBED TO ME. YOU ARE UNWORTHY OF A WARRIOR'S DEATH!
TH-THANK YOU!
DOOM, IS THAT WISE? HE COULD GRAB THE PISTOL.

LET HIM! I POSSESS THE CLIP! NOW, PULL YOURSELF FREE!
I AM OUT!

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS NOW?
THEY ARE NONE OF YOUR CONCERN.
SO. I RECEIVE A SERVANT'S DISMISSAL!
NO. NO. YOU AIDED LATERVIA. YOU HAVE DOOM'S GRATITUDE--
AND NOTHING ELSE?
IT MUST BE ENOUGH. FOR NOW.
VERY WELL. THEN I WILL SEE YOU... WHEN YOU ARE AGAIN KING.

YES... WHEN I AM AGAIN KING.
END.

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Attention correspondents: All letters to be considered for publication must include your name and address though we will withhold that info by request!

Dear People,

"Panther's Quest" was definitely one of the finest works you've featured in this comic since its inception. I've heard rumors that it might be reprinted in its entirety, but right now I think I'd rather see the earlier story, "Panther's Rage," from JUNGLE ACTION see print. Together these 2 stories make virtually every other story or series featuring the Black Panther seem trivial and insignificant by comparison. I hope Don McGregor will continue to write stories of this quality, depth, warmth and meaning for a long time to come.

Actually, much as I enjoyed the work of Don, Gene Colan and Tom Palmer, Doug Moench and Paul Gulacy's COLDBLOOD-7 has my vote for *best* serial of the year. It amazes me how they could take a concept like DEATHLOK THE DEMOLISHER and re-work it so that instead of being totally negative and depressing, instead we have suspenseful and exciting. Of course, these 2 guys may be my favorite team in all of comics—I've yet to see them blow it, and I'm thankful they've been doing so *much* work the past few years. Any chance of "Coldblood-7" being reprinted in book form?

Henry R. Kujawa
1202 Everett St.
Camden, NJ 08104

Definitely, Henry! Not only will this saga be reprinted in the future, but Paul and Doug are already working on a new Bookshelf Format Limited Series due for release during the Summer! So, you haven't seen the last of Coldblood-7, and we're all glad!

To whomever is responsible for "With Liberty and Justice for All",

I have been a comic book collector for over 13 years and, although I have written a few letters to books in the past, those letters have never been motivated by such outrage as I felt when I read the Spider-Man story in issue #39.

In addition to being a collector I am also a Veterinary Technician student. I strongly believe in animal rights and in the humane treatment of animals but I don't believe in taking this belief to the unnecessary and highly illegal extremes as such animal rights activists as you portrayed in "Liberty and Justice for All." More importantly, I found the story very one sided and highly misleading. You managed to take every single atrocity committed against animals and attribute it all to one institution, implying that *all* animals in such a situation are treated in such a horrendous manner.

There are several points I think that the writer of this tale as well as the readers of the book should be made aware of.

1. Some of the practices you showed the laboratory responsible for are illegal and, if the students were aware of them as they apparently were, could be dealt with within the law. The study of trauma by crushing the skulls of monkeys is a prime example. This actually did occur at a State University and they were caught, fined, and banned from further use of animals in studies.

2. Abducting animals in the middle of the night accomplishes little or nothing. It means they saved the lives of a few (illegally). The lab will simply have to resupply the experiments, most likely resulting in a tuition hike. (Lab animals are very expensive.)

3. The most important point is that an incredibly small percentage of labs across the country involve themselves in such experiments. If you want to talk inhumanity, here are the facts—only six cases of animal abuse in labs have been reported to the National Institute of Health since 1981. On the other hand, 200,000 dogs and cats are abandoned each week in the United States. Animals in the research field are often treated better than those owned by citizens across the country.

4. Animal research is invaluable to the medical field. It is responsible for the discovery of insulin and the treatment of diabetes, polio vaccine, rabies vaccines, transplant operations, pacemakers, smallpox and practically every single medication ever released. People need to know both sides of the story.

5. Animal Rights Activities have caused millions of dollars worth of damage to facilities nationwide all in the name of "humanity." The Animal Liberation Front, by the way, was named by California's Attorney General as being among the state's three most active terrorist organizations.

6. Computers cannot replace research on living animals. We don't fully understand the workings of the nervous system among other things. . .let alone are we capable of reproducing them on a computer.

The point I hope I have made is that very little research is done in the fashion that you portrayed and much of the humane research is necessary for the health and well being of millions of people. The great majority of animals used in research are treated very humanely and with the use of anesthesia.

The major problem that I had with the story is that it shows a popular super hero condoning the actions of a terrorist organization in its illegal activities. It also implies that such actions are "right" and that all animal research is "wrong." It's bad enough that I've seen the same type of stories appearing in the direct sales market, but you have to keep in mind that this book is available to anyone in a convenience store. It encourages people to follow in the same footsteps.

I strongly agree with Spider-Man that such treatment of animals is wrong. However, he should have at least attempted the legal way first.

Susan Grau
40 Georgetown Rd.
Lindenwold, NJ 08021

Your point is well taken, Susan. We appreciate being able to show both sides of the issues presented in these pages. Thank you very much for writing.

Dear People,

Just a quick note to say thank you for the Hercules story in MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS issues #39-41. I was afraid that I'd seen the last of the future Hercules storyline after the last Graphic Novel. Since I am Herc's biggest fan, I grab any mag where he appears. Here's to many more appearances, present and future! Oh, and in case I'm being too subtle, give me more Hercules!

Mark Carter
56 Denistown St
Welland, Ontario
CANADA L3C 1T9

We'll see what we can do, Mark. Or in case we're being too subtle, let's say that there's nothing planned right now for more Hercules stuff, but if you, Charles, and others out there want to see more of Bob Layton's Hercules stuff, we're sure we can arrange it!

NEXT ISSUE:

THE WASP™ SUFFERS THE PERILS OF PUBLICITY!
DEVIL-SLAYER™ IN A FINAL SHOWDOWN WITH THE FLYING DUTCHMAN!
STORM VS. DOCTOR DOOM!